# **United States Embassy Macedonia**





Global articles for your interest Issue 9 June 1 - June 16, 2009

#### **Contents:**

#### 1. Fighting Human Trafficking a Critical Part of US Foreign Policy

The fight against human trafficking is a top priority of the Obama administration, which is eager to form collaborative efforts to fight this modern form of slavery, says Secretary of State Rodham Clinton. Trafficking is "a debasement of our common humanity," President Obama says. ...

### 2. Obama Calls for a New Beginning with Muslims Around the World

Saying he came to seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims worldwide, President Obama tells an audience in Cairo that the cycle of suspicion and discord that has defined the relationship must end, and he seeks a new start based on mutual interest and mutual respect. ...

#### 3. In Albania and Greece, Brave Individuals Fight Human Slavery

Human slavery continues to be a worldwide scourge. Vera Lesko of Albania and George Vanikiotis of Greece are recognized for their actions in fighting the human trafficking problem in their countries.

#### 4. US Freedom of Information Act Seen as Good Model for Others

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), is a model for other nations, says Tom Blanton, director of the National Security Archive, a nongovernmental organization that uses FOIA to collect and publish declassified documents. ...

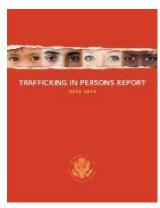
#### 5. Obama Appoints Policy Adviser for Native American Affairs

President Obama appoints Kimberly Teehee to the newly created position of senior policy adviser for Native American affairs. The president says Teehee's position in the White House will ensure that Native Americans have a voice in his administration's policymaking decisions. ...

#### **6.** Youth Science Web Site Builds International Ties

Cogito, a math and science site for gifted pre-college students, offers youth from more than 50 countries a place where young thinkers can share ideas. Members also get to interact with award-winning scientists and find out about upcoming competitions and enrichment programs. ...

# In case you missed it:



#### 2009 Trafficking in Persons Report Released

June 16, 2009

**Secretary Clinton:** "The ninth annual Trafficking in Persons Report sheds light on the faces of modern-day slavery and on new facets of this global problem. The human trafficking phenomenon affects virtually every country, including the United States. In acknowledging America's own struggle with modern-day slavery and slavery-related practices, we offer partnership. We call on every government to join us in working to

build consensus and leverage resources to eliminate all forms of human trafficking." Report / Remarks at Release of the Ninth Annual Trafficking in Persons Report Alongside Leaders in Congress.

- Republic of Macedonia: 2009 Trafficking in Persons Report...full text.



Ambassador Reeker (LP)

#### Ambassador Reeker speaks with On-line magazine Veles News

June 15, 2009

Ambassador Reeker: "Well I think democracy, is a constantly evolving process and our country after 233 years, since our independence; we continue to evolve, discuss and debate, so democracy has to be something that is constantly tended, you have to practice democracy. I think one of the strengths or perhaps the greatest strength this country has is its diversity and that of course

has been the greatest strength of the United States as well."...more.



Ambassador Philip T. Reeker

# The First World Conference for the United Macedonian Diaspora

June 13, 2009

Ambassador Reeker traveled to Washington to attend the first worldwide conference organized by the United Macedonian Diaspora. In speaking with the group, he outlined the challenges that lie ahead and the joint successes the United States and Macedonia have shared. To see his remarks at the Gala Dinner, please <u>click here</u>. To see his remarks at a working lunch, please <u>click here</u>. To see his interview with Voice

of America, please click here.



Ambassador Reeker talks to Dnevnik Foreign Affairs Editor Hristo Ivanovski. **LP** 

Ambassador Reeker Discusses with Dnevnik His
Upcoming Trip to Washington, the Name Issue, and
other Relevant Topics

June 8, 2009

**Ambassador Reeker:** "I will go Tuesday to Washington and have lot of meetings there. I will participate at the United Macedonian Diaspora Conference, which is, they told me, the

first such event. I think it is a global event and they want to make it an annual event, so I'm pleased to be a part of that." ...full text.



Ambassador Reeker addresses the SEEU graduates. (LP)

#### **Recognizing Tomorrow's Leaders**

June 6, 2009

On Saturday, June 6, Ambassador Reeker spoke to the graduates of South East European University at their commencement ceremony. He congratulated them for completing their undergraduate studies and challenged them to make a difference in the world.

- ♦ To see the text of his speech, please click here.
- ♦ To see Ambassador Reeker's comments to the media at the event, please click here.

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